Notice of Allowability Stammar Wills M Monique Mri Unit Wills M Monique Mri Unit Art Unit Wills M Monique Willson Wi		Application No.	Applicant(s)	$\overline{}$
- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address—All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERTS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. In fol included reviewlit (or previously mailed), a blotte of Alvavance (*FOL-36) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. ☑ This communication is responsive to \$4\text{MO1}\$. 2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are \$\frac{1}{2}\text{Q}\$. 3. ☑ The drawings filed on \$\frac{1}{2}\text{MO2}\text{QO2}\$ are accepted by the Examiner. 4. ☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). 3. ☑ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. ☑ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. ☑ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received. 5. ☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78. (a) ☑ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MALING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to finally comply will result in ABANDONNEENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE 7. ☑ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the stached Examiner's Amendment or in the Office action of Paper No. ☑ General Paper No. ☑ Including changes required by the proposed drawing co	Notice of Allowability	09/849,575	OGLESBY ET AL.	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-58) or other appropriate communication will be add in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. ☑ This communication is responsive to 5/4/01. 2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) Isiare 1.20. 3. ☑ The drawings filled on 24 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner. 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* o) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). 5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or provisional application stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). 5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78. (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 15 (a) and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification of menses the priority under 35 U.S.C. § 15 (a) and/or 121 since a specific reference was included upon the priority of the propersion of the pr		Examiner	Art Unit	
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Application/Control Number: 09/849,575

Art Unit: 1746

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 1-14 are allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art is silent to a system for supplying air to a fuel cell within a vehicle, said system comprising a fuel tank which stores pressurized gas; a first conduit system that selectively and fluidly couples the fuel tank to said fuel cell; an expander which is disposed within said first conduit system and which is selectively and rotatably driven by the pressurized gas, a second conduit system which selectively and fluidly couples said fuel cell to a source of air, and a compressor which is disposed within said second conduit system and which is operatively coupled to and rotatably driven by said expander.

Claims 15-20 are allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art is silent to a method for delivering pressurized gas and air to a fuel cell comprising: providing a first conduit system for transferring pressurized gas to a fuel cell and operatively disposing an expander within said first conduit system, providing a second conduit system for transferring air to said fuel cell and operatively disposing said compressor within said second conduit system, and operatively connecting said expander to said compressor and channeling said pressurized gas through said expander, effective to rotatably drive said expander and said compressor, and reducing the pressure of said gas that is transferred to said fuel cell and increasing the pressure of said gas that is transferred to said fuel cell.

Application/Control Number: 09/849,575

Art Unit: 1746

The prior art, such as Hornburg U.S. Patent 6,190,791, teaches a fuel cell system comprising a fuel cell; a first compressor for compressing process air supplied to the fuel cell; expanders in the supply and exhaust air lines and coupled to drive the compressor. The reference is silent to the compressor and expander being provided in separate supply lines (conduit systems) and channeling pressurized gas from the first supply line (conduit system) to rotatably drive the expander and the compressor, which is required by independent claims 1,8 and 15. Therefore, the reference is patentably distinct from Hornburg.

Conclusions

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Monique Wills whose telephone number is (703) 305-0073. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30am to 5:00 pm.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

If attempts to reach Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski, may be reached at 703-308-4333.

The unofficial fax number is (703) 305-3599. The Official fax number for non-final amendments is 703-872-9310. The Official fax number for after final amendments is 703-872-9311.

Mw

11/11/03

SUPERVISORY DAVIENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700